

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
IO-14 OIC-02 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00
CG-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 H-02
FCC-02 OTPE-00 /143 W
-----058870 121338Z /41

R 121307Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8164
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO
SUBJECT: SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS OF TWENTIETH SESSION OF
IMCO SUBCOMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION, HELD
AT LONDON 5-9 SEPT. 1977

1. NAV XX COMPLETED. ALL INTERESTS OF US ADEQUATELY
CONSIDERED AND ACTED UPON. SPECIFIC COMMENTS FOLLOW.

2. ROUTING SYSTEM IN THE STRAITS OF MALACCA AND
SINGAPORE ACCEPTED IN PART BY SUBCOMMITTEE. INCREASED
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FLEXIBILITY DEMONSTRATED BY DELEGATIONS FROM INDONESIA,
MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE FACILITATED COMPROMISE EFFORTS TO
MEET THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS WHILE REMAINING WITHIN TECHNI-
CAL LIMITS. DRAFT ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION, INCLUDING AS
ANNEXES THE AMENDED TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES, DEEP
WATER ROUTES, NAVIGATION RULES, AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS,
WAS PREPARED AND WILL BE SENT TO EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

OF MSC IN OCTOBER 1977 TO ALLOW FOR ASSEMBLY ADOPTION.
ADOPTION IS CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF AMENDED PACKAGE
BY GOVERNMENTS OF INDONESIA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE.
THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WILL SEEK APPROVAL FROM THEIR
GOVERNMENTS WITH A VIEW TO TRANSMITTING THEIR COMMENTS
TO IMCO SECRETARIAT BEFORE 10 OCTOBER.

3. US HAS PRESSED FOR SUBCOMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF
1972 COLREGS. CERTAIN ERRORS, INACCURACIES AND INCON-
SISTENCIES HAVE BEEN NOTED. THE PROPONENTS (PRINCIPALLY
THE NETHERLANDS, USSR, BELGIUM AND US) OF EXAMINATION OF
THE RULES HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED. CONSERVATIVE FORCES
BELIEVE AMENDMENTS AT THIS TIME WOULD BE IMPRUDENT AND
PREMATURE AND WANT TO HOLD UP ASSESSMENT OF CHANGES. US
DEL HAS CONSISTENTLY MADE A STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT
1972 COLREGS BE CONSIDERED BY THIS SUBCOMMITTEE ON A
HIGH PRIORITY BASIS. MULTIPLE WORKING GROUPS ON
IMPORTANT MATTERS AT THIS MEETING PRECLUDED EITHER
WORKING GROUP OR PLENARY ACTION ON COLREGS. DELEGATION
WILL PREPARE STRONG NOTE ON COLREGS MATTERS FOR NEXT
SESSION.

4. THE SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSED US PROPOSALS FOR SECOND
RADAR AND COLLISION AVOIDANCE SYSTEMS (CAS) AT LENGTH.
THIS PROPOSAL IS ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN
THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVES OF 17 MARCH 1977. REQUIRE-
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MENT OF A SECOND RADAR ON VESSELS OF 10,000 GRT OR MORE
WAS RECOMMENDED TO BE PRODUCED BY THE JOINT MSC/MEPC
MEETING NEXT MONTH. MAJORITY OF ADMINISTRATIONS ARE
AGAINST ANY GENERAL REQUIREMENT FOR CAS UNTIL TECHNICAL
PARAMETERS ARE INTERNATIONALLY AGREED IN IMCO. THE SUB-
COMMITTEE PROPOSED THAT SUCH STANDARDS BE DEVELOPED AS
A MATTER OF URGENCY AND RECOMMENDED THAT AN AD HOC
WORKING GROUP BE ESTABLISHED AT THE JOINT MSC/MEPC

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SESSION TO PURSUE THIS MATTER URGENTLY. THE NETHERLANDS
AND USSR ENTERED RESERVATIONS ON CAS AND AGAINST FORMA-
TION OF AD HOC GROUP AT MSC/MEPC IN FINAL MOMENTS OF
MEETING. UK (WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN) SUPPORTED ESTAB-
LISHMENT OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP AND EXPEDITING DEVELOP-
MENT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND SUBCOMMITTEE AGREED
TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC GROUP TO THE JOINT
MSC/MEPC MEETING IN OCTOBER.

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5. FINALIZED AND APPROVED DRAFT REPORT ON RADAR BEACONS
AND TRANSPONDERS. DECISION REACHED TO TRANSMIT REPORT
TO IMCO MEMBERSHIP, AND TO CCIR TO ASSIST STUDY GROUP
EIGHT AND FOR CONSIDERATION BY SPECIAL PREPARATION MEET-
ING.

6. REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP (ISWG) ON
OMEGA DIFFERENTIAL CORRECTION SYSTEMS WAS BEFORE SUB-
COMMITTEE. DECISION MADE THAT FURTHER MEETING OF ISWG
NECESSARY TO COMPLETE DRAFT OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND
COMPLETE TABULATION OF TEST OF TECHNIQUES. GOVERNMENT OF

FRANCE OFFERED TO HOST FURTHER ISWG MEETING. SUBCOMMITTEE ACCEPTED OFFER. DATE OF MEETING TO BE ESTABLISHED, PROBABLY MARCH 1978. INVITATIONS TO PARTICIPATE WILL BE HANDLED BY GOF.

7. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION, 21ST SESSION, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1977.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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